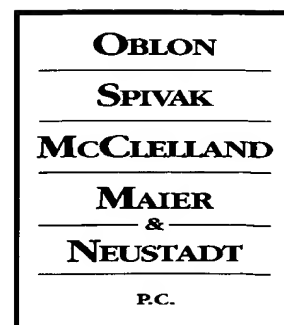


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Docket No.: 116120US2

COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS  
ALEXANDRIA, VIRGINIA 22313

ATTORNEYS AT LAW

MARVIN J. SPIVAK  
(703) 413-3000  
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RE: Application Serial No.: 09/176,315  
Applicants: Shigenobu MAEDA, et al.  
Filing Date: October 22, 1998  
For: METHOD OF DESIGNING SEMICONDUCTOR  
DEVICE, SEMICONDUCTOR DEVICE AND  
RECORDING MEDIUM  
Group Art Unit: 2811  
Examiner: CRANE, S.

SIR:

Attached hereto for filing are the following papers:

**Examiner's Answer Status Request (in duplicate)**

Our check in the amount of \$0 is attached covering any required fees. In the event any variance exists between the amount enclosed and the Patent Office charges for filing the above-noted documents, including any fees required under 37 C.F.R. 1.136 for any necessary Extension of Time to make the filing of the attached documents timely, please charge or credit the difference to our Deposit Account No. 15-0030. Further, if these papers are not considered timely filed, then a petition is hereby made under 37 C.F.R. 1.136 for the necessary extension of time. A duplicate copy of this sheet is enclosed.

Respectfully submitted,

OBLON, SPIVAK, McCLELLAND,  
MAIER & NEUSTADT, P.C.

Marvin J. Spivak

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DOCKET NO.: 116120US2/st



**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

IN RE APPLICATION OF:

Shigenobu MAEDA, et al.

SERIAL NO: 09/176,315

GROUP: 2811

FILED: October 22, 1998

EXAMINER: CRANE, S.

FOR: METHOD OF DESIGNING SEMICONDUCTOR DEVICE,  
SEMICONDUCTOR DEVICE AND RECORDING MEDIUM

**STATUS REQUEST FOR EXAMINER'S ANSWER**

Commissioner for Patents  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

The Patent Office is respectfully requested to inform the undersigned of the approximate date on which the Examiner's Answer will be made on this Application.

A duplicate of this letter is enclosed for your convenience.

Respectfully Submitted,

OBLON, SPIVAK, McCLELLAND,  
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